



OHIO HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

Doug Ute, Executive Director

Student Eligibility Guidance for High School Principals and Athletic Administrators

Bylaw 4-4-3, Restoration and Removal of Scholastic Eligibility

This document will focus on Bylaw 4-4-3, which reads as follows:

BYLAW 4-4-3 *The eligibility or ineligibility of a student continues until the start of the fifth school day of the next grading period, at which time the grades from the immediately preceding grading period become effective. For the purposes of this bylaw, "school day" includes faculty in-service days, and regular school attendance days but not holidays, calamity days or school breaks.*

EXCEPTION 1: *Eligibility or ineligibility for the first grading period commences with the start of the fall sports season.*

EXCEPTION 2: *A student coming off the "ineligible status" may become eligible after the fifth calendar day immediately following the end of the grading period provided those grades can be obtained and verified by a school administrator.*

There are no rulings required for either of the exceptions to Bylaw 4-4-3, but school administrators are encouraged to reach out to the compliance staff for clarification on any certain situation. Below are examples of when the grades from the "immediately preceding grading period" become effective:

Example #1:

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------|
| Nov. 4 | Nov. 5 | Nov. 6 | Nov. 7 | Nov. 8 | Nov. 9 Grading Period Ends | Nov. 10 |
| Nov. 11 | Nov. 12 Regular School Day (1) | Nov. 13 Regular School Day (2) | Nov. 14 Regular School Day (3) | Nov. 15 Regular School Day (4) | Nov. 16 Regular School Day (5)** | Nov. 17 |

** Immediately Preceding Grading Period Grades become effective at the start of this day

Example #2:

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------|
| April 1 | April 2 | April 3 Grading Period Ends | April 4 (Calamity Day) | April 5 Easter Break (Holiday) | April 6 Easter Break (Holiday) | April 7 |
| April 8 | April 9 Faculty In-Service Day (1) | April 10 Regular School Day (2) | April 11 Regular School Day (3) | April 12 Regular School Day (4) | April 13 Regular School Day (5)** | April 14 |

** Immediately Preceding Grading Period Grades become effective at the start of this day



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Example #3:

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---------|-----------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------|
| Dec. 16 | Dec. 17 | Dec. 18 | Dec. 19 | Dec. 20 Grading Period Ends | Dec. 21 Winter Break (Holiday) | Dec. 22 |
| Dec. 23 | Dec. 24 Winter Break (Holiday) | Dec. 25 Winter Break (Holiday) | Dec. 26 Winter Break (Holiday) | Dec. 27 Winter Break (Holiday) | Dec. 28 Winter Break (Holiday) | Dec. 29 |
| Dec. 30 | Dec. 31 Winter Break (Holiday) | Jan. 1 Calamity Day | Jan. 2 Regular School Day (1) | Jan. 3 Regular School Day (2) | Jan. 4 Regular School Day (3) | Jan. 5 |
| Jan. 6 | Jan. 7 Regular School Day (4) | Jan. 8 Regular School Day (5)** | Jan. 9 | Jan. 10 | Jan. 11 | Jan. 12 |

** Immediately Preceding Grading Period Grades become effective at the start of this day

Example #4: **Example of Bylaw 4-4-3 Exception 2 Situation**

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|--|---------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| Dec. 16 | Dec. 17 | Dec. 18 | Dec. 19 | Dec. 20 Grading Period Ends | Dec. 21 Winter Break (Holiday) (Calendar Day #1) | Dec. 22 (Calendar Day #2) |
| Dec. 23 (Calendar Day #3) | Dec. 24 Winter Break (Holiday) (Calendar Day #4) | Dec. 25 Winter Break (Holiday) (Calendar Day #5) | Dec. 26 Winter Break (Holiday)- Eligibility Restored if Able to Verify Grades** | Dec. 27 Winter Break (Holiday) | Dec. 28 Winter Break (Holiday) | Dec. 29 |

** Immediately Preceding Grading Period Grades become effective at the start of this day for students coming off ineligible status

NOTE: Up until the 2024-25 school year, calamity days **were** included as part of the five days school personnel had in reviewing the athletic eligibility, or ineligibility, of a student-athlete for the upcoming grading period. Beginning in the 24-25 school year, calamity days are no longer counted as part of the five



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“school days.” Days where classes are in-session, along with faculty in-service/teacher workdays, are the two designated type of days that count towards the “five school days” administrators have in reviewing the athletic eligibility of a student-athlete for the upcoming grading period.

Please feel free to contact Kristin Ronai (kronai@ohsaa.org) if you have any questions!